

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of December 21, 2007 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

#### ***Regarding Amendment***

In the Amendment:

independent claims 1 and 6 are amended to specify that the device is a printing device and that the authentication IC of the consumable unit stores the secret key and data on a printing consumable. Support for these amendments can be found at page 33, line 8-page 34, line 4, page 39, line 4-page 40, line 13 and page 41, line 12-page 42, line 11 of the present specification; and

claims 3 and 4 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

#### ***Regarding 35 USC 102(b) and 103(a) Rejections***

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of above-described amended independent claims 1 and 6, and dependent claims 3 and 4, is not disclosed or suggested by previously cited Koenig, because Koenig does not teach or suggest an authorisation scheme of a consumable unit having an authentication IC which stores a secret key for authentication and data on a printing consumable, as is required by the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicant/s:



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